



Sretan Uskrs **THE KALIFORNSKI**



NEWSLETTER OF THE SLAVIC-AMERICAN CULTURAL ORGANIZATION
P.O. BOX 226 – WATSONVILLE, CALIFORNIA 95077
(A NON-PROFIT – NON-RELIGIOUS & NON-POLITICAL ORGANIZATION)

EDITORS:
Agnes Gospodnetić Mifsud
Nina Matulich

SPRING 2010



Happy Easter



welcome me spring

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Everyone!

Thank you for attending the Christmas Dinner held on Saturday, December 12, 2009 at the Watsonville Woman's Club. Served were 148 adults, 1 child and 13 take-outs. It was another great feast prepared by Peter Kovacich and his crew. Simply delicious! Great food was matched by the lively music of Julio Morgani on accordion.

Thanks go out to the helpers - Nina Matulich on reservations, Helen Marinovich Ukestad and Norma Hansen on selling raffle tickets, Mary Marinovich Sielke on selling drink tickets, Agnes Gospodnetic Milsud on decorations, dessert serving, and calling out raffle numbers, and also to Helen Barboa McAbee on dessert serving.

More thanks to John Vodanovich and Mitch Selak on bartending and to Gary Gospodnetich for preparing and bringing the bakalar.

Hope to see everyone at our next event, the Rack of Lamb Dinner on April 24, 2010.

STEVE BELICK

S.A.C.O. OFFICERS

President - Steve Belick - 477-7523

Vice-President - Peter Kovacich - 724-0071

Treasurer - Jo Franich Puhera - 724-8930

Recording Secretary - Linda Wathen Espejo - 724-2892

Financial/Corresponding Secretary - Nina Matulich - 724-7971



COMING EVENTS ~ 2010

APRIL 24, 2010 ~ Saturday ~ Rack of Lamb

JULY 11, 2010 ~ Sunday ~ BBQ at Corralitos Padre Park

OCTOBER 9, 2010 ~ Saturday ~ Dinner

DECEMBER 11, 2010 ~ Saturday ~ Christmas Dinner

CALENDAR



UPCOMING EVENTS IN SAN FRANCISCO

APRIL 11, 2010 ~ FESTIVAL OF THE MANDOLINS

Events are held at the Croatian American Cultural Center-Slavonic MBS

60 Onondaga Avenue, San Francisco, CA (near Alemany Blvd. & Balboa BART) For more information, call 510-649-0941 or visit www.croatianamericanweb.org





REMINDER OF S.A.C.O. DUES

There are several members who have not paid their SACO annual 2010 dues. Please pay soon if you wish to continue your membership. Annual dues are :

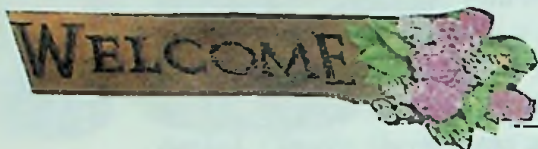
SINGLE ~ \$12.00

FAMILY ~ \$18.00

Please make check payable to: S.A.C.O.

*c/o 535 McKenzie Avenue
Watsonville, CA 95076*

THANK YOU!



NEW S.A.C.O. MEMBERS

Barney & Katy Kesovia Winter ~ Freedom, CA

Henry Schimpeler ~ Freedom, CA

Joy Cicisly ~ San Jose, CA

IN MEMORIUM

GLORIA RESETAR

87 years ~ December 20, 2009 ~ Watsonville, CA

Mother of Jim, Larry and Steven

Grandmother of four and Great-Grandmother of six

PATRICK KANE

67 years ~ December 18, 2009 ~ Watsonville, CA

Husband of Diann

Father of Cindy, David and Joseph and one granddaughter



December 12, 2009

Christmas Dinner

DESSERTS

Pat Gospodnetich Solano

Karen Belick

S.A.C.O.

Norma Hansen

Ann Vulich Cernokus

Helen Marinovich Ukestad

Christina Justus-Garcia

Mary Marinovich Siefke

Teresa Del Piero

Sharon Alaga

Janet Pelich Skillicorn

Jo Franich Puhera

Sharon Nizenkoff

Nina Matulich

Ann Backovich

Slavica Kusanovich Zalac

Jelka Basor

Agnes Gospodnetic Mifsud

June Matiasovich Melton





PRIZES

Alex Solano
S.A.C.O.
Ann Vulich Cernokus
Norma Hansen
Steve Belick
John Vodanovich
Helen Marinovich Ukestad
Christina Justus-Garcia
Betty Kesovia Bobeda
Frances Matulich Osorio
Charlotte Strazicich Car
Sharon Alaga
Nita Gizdich

Marguerite Bloom
Bill Resetar
Janet Pelich Skillicorn
Mark Sambrailo
Diane Gribble
Peter Harris
Bob Leonardich
Catherine Dabo
Ann Backovich
Luann Copriviza Niebling
Agnes Gospodnetic Mifsud
Geri Derpich Heebner



TO ALL WHO FURNISHED THE DESSERTS AND
PRIZES ~ HVALA PUNO!

Mina Matulich



TRADITIONS OF EASTER IN CROATIA

One of the oldest traditions is making "klepetaljke" and "cegrtaljke" (very similiar to rattles and clappers), especially popular in central Dalmatia and the Konavle region. They vary region to region, while those on the Island of Krk are quite interesting: metal plates that hang at the end of a 30cm board produce a strong sound when the device is shaken. In other regions they are made differently: small wheels were attached to wooden boards and connected to metal sprockets; the whole device made a rattling noise when pulled.

Since palms can rarely be found on the Adriatic, people mostly use olive or rosemary branches and flowers. Chronicles from the city of Split show that people used to gather on Easter at the only palm tree in the city, in order to collect palm branches. On the Island of Brač they used to manage in a different way: they used to ship palm branches from the Island of Vis, where palm trees can be found in abundance and distribute them to the islanders. The branches were decorated with crosses or wreaths made of ribbons and flowers. On the Island of Korcula and in the surrounding areas of Sibenik, olive branches were woven into plaits, while branches were woven into wreaths with crosses in Istria.

Decorated eggs is another old tradition that is quite important to the Croatians and are called "pisanice", where "pisati" means "to write". Eggs are decorated and sometimes used to decorate a traditional Easter bread. In coastal parts of Croatia this bread is called "sirnica". It is made with lots of eggs and sugar and also add rosewater so it smells good and orange peel. This sweet bread is traditional Easter food, and often people dip the bread into a sweet wine called "prosec".



SRETAN USKRS!



Sretan Uskrs vam želi



Traditionally, colorful Easter eggs are found on every Croatian table. The eggs remain on the table all day for family and guests to enjoy before the main meal is served. There are several ways of decorating Easter eggs. The best known method is to use hot liquid wax with the help of pencil-like instruments. The most common phrase put on pisanicas is "Sretan Uskrs", other common decorations are doves, crosses, flowers, traditional designs, and other slogans wishing health and happiness. Before paint became common, villagers would have to use whatever resources they had available around. You'll find red eggs with a white star in southern Croatia due to the abundance of red beets and other vegetables. In the Medimurje area, soot would often be mixed with oak to make a dark brown color. Green plants would be used for green dye. Eggs were also colored by being boiled in water with onions, walnuts, roots and herbs. In order to get their shine, they were polished with oil before being placed in the basket. Finally, there is one more custom related to Easter eggs – rather than an Easter egg "hunt", there is an Easter egg "fight". Everyone would choose an egg from the basket and would hit it against their adversary's egg. The winner would be the person whose egg remained intact throughout the "fight".



APPLE ~BANANA SQUARES ~ easy and quick and DELICIOUS!!

- 2 sliced bananas
- 3 apples (peeled, cored & sliced)
- 2 cups sugar

Mix the above well and allow to stand.

- 2 cups sifted flour
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoons cinnamon

DRY INGREDIENTS

- Sift above four ingredients together in a bowl; then add:
- 1 cup chopped walnuts

Beat until well blended the following: EGG MIXTURE

- 2 eggs
- ½ cup canola oil
- 2 teaspoons vanilla

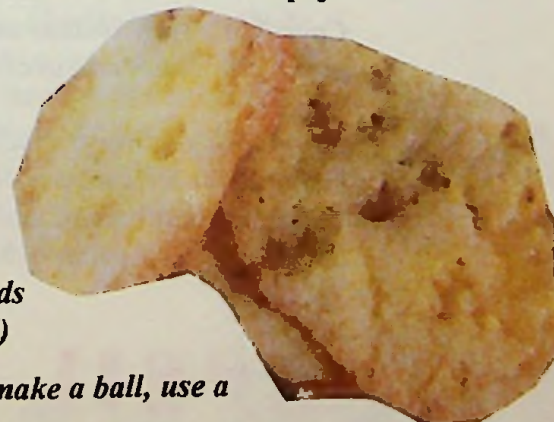
Add the egg mixture to the dry ingredients. Add apples, bananas, and sugar mixture. Beat by hand until well blended. Pour into a greased 9x13 inch pan or 2 8x8 inch square pans and bake at 350* until done - - 45 minutes to 1 hour. Allow to cool in pan. Cut in squares and serve. You can top it with whipped cream, cool whip if desired.



LEMON DROP COOKIES

- 2 cups flour
- 1 1/3 cup sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 4 tablespoons butter
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 4 tablespoons grated lemon rinds
- ½ cup sliced almonds (optional)

Blend all together ~ won't be solid, it will be loose, spoon and make a ball, use a fork to make criss-cross on top. Bake at 350* for 10 minutes.





TRAVEL NEWS



Here is a wonderful way to see Croatia ~

On a Cruise ~ DALMATIAN SUNSHINE

9-day cruise from Dubrovnik, Split, Plitvice Lakes, Postojna Cave, Bled, Ljubljana and Zagreb.

Included Features: first class hotels, rooms with private facilities, breakfast daily and 5 dinners, arrival and departure transfers, touring by modern air-conditioned motor coach, professional Tour Director throughout, luggage handling.

TRAVEL DATES: APRIL 17, 2010 thru OCTOBER 30, 2010

For more information, contact JELKA BASOR, at the ADRIATIC TRAVEL in Watsonville ~ 831-728-7766



HERE ARE SOME TRAVELING TIPS:

An easy way to fend off colds and flu when you fly: Use a saline nasal spray ~ "the air inside the cabin can dry out the nose and make it easier for germs to enter, so keep the area moist". Don't have a spray handy? Apply a light coating of an emollient, like Aquaphor, just in and around the nostrils.

Coordinate your clothes around one or two basic colors. This cuts down on the number of shoes and accessories you have to bring.

Eat before boarding: Eat before you're airborne. If your body is hungry, your blood-sugar level drops. When that happens, your body sends out a stress signal. Your adrenaline rises, and so does your anxiety. So eat adequate pre-flight complex carbohydrates – whole-wheat bread, cereal or a banana.





Drink up: Water, that is! Flying is extremely dehydrating; the pressurized cabin air is 10 times more dry than the Sahara Desert, causing you to lose fluid through your skin. This leads to puffy hands and ankles, fatigue and a general bloated feeling. **SO DRINK LOTS OF WATER!!** At least 8 to 12 ounces every hour you're in the air. And limit your consumption of alcohol and coffee. So stick to the bottled water or seltzers, herbal teas, or juice.

Power up: Want to be bright-eyed and bushy-tailed when you arrive? Moderate your intake of carbohydrates as you get close to landing. Eat more high-protein, low-fat fare, such as poached eggs, low-fat dairy products and grilled meats to boost alertness.



Tips for the New Baggage Scanners: New, high-tech baggage scanners used at airports are designed to find explosives as well as other things. However, a substantial package of chocolate or cheese may also set off the alarm. These foods have high density and makeup of an explosive, according to InVision Technology, a manufacturer of the new baggage screening machines.

New bomb-detecting scanners won't hurt digital cameras, but they will damage any film left in checked bags, so pack film in your carry-on.

To speed up screening and prevent flight delays, don't lock your luggage. If it has to be searched by Transportation Security Administration employees, they'll have to smash the lock.

HERE'S A LITTLE BIT OF CROATIA IN ADRIATICA ~ MCKINNEY, TEXAS

For those of us who had always longed for a little bit of Croatia in "the States", you can now travel to Adriatica, near Dallas, a place that encompasses the timeless beauty of a quaint Dalmatian village with modern-day luxuries. A very successful real estate developer, Jeffrey Blackard and his team strove to capture the architectural and cultural integrity of the original village which inspired this project ~ SUPETAR, located on the Island of Brač, Croatia. Supetar is located on the northeast side of Brač and just a short ferry ride away from the Dalmatian coastal city of SPLIT. It's a small beach town that is ideal for family vacations. During the day, vacationers can indulge in a variety of water sports. At night, they can stroll down the "Riva", lined with restaurants, cafe bars and cute shops while enjoying the beautiful views of the Adriatic. There is a definite Old World feel (as is common in most, if not all, Croatian beach towns) which allows one to appreciate life's simple pleasures. And that feeling is what the Blackard Group has successfully achieved in the vision of what Slobodna Dalmacija dubbed, the "American Supetar". One can easily forget they are sitting in the middle of McKinney, Texas. Instead, he or she is transported to that serene setting and state of mind that exists only on the shores of the Adriatic. The Group effectively replicated the physical beauty unique to the Dalmatian Coast to a tee, from the layout of the property to the walls of imported stone carefully laid by hand to the cobblestone appearance of the streets. Some notable points of interest: The Bella Donna Chapel, complete with a stone-carved relief of Christ salvaged from WWII, which is located on its own island. Another critical piece is the 7-story Bell Tower, housing its own museum with numerous bells from Croatia.

A remake of the Galleon Dubrovnik will adorn Adriatica's harbor and set sail for an annual July 4th fireworks display. This structure will stand across from the Riva (the Harbor District), which will serve as the village's centerpiece.

Source: Croatian Chronicle, Feb. 2010

ADRIATICA

BELL
TOWER



CHAPEL

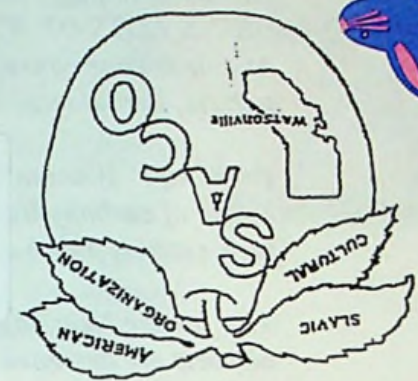




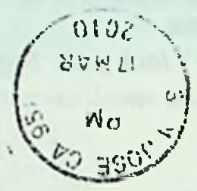
DATED MATERIAL - Please Rush



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Happy Easter



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President



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